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Point Guard De'Andre Adams Involved in Fatal Car Crash

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Point Guard De'Andre Adams Involved in Fatal Car Crash

Quick Facts

- Winthrop Eagles point guard De'Andre Adams was killed in a single-car crash near his home in Austell, Ga.
- Faculty, staff, students and friends may call in to WRHI-1340 AM with memories of Adams.

ROCK HILL, S.C. – **De'Andre Adams**, a 5'8" point guard from Austell, Ga., died this morning in an Atlanta hospital after sustaining head injuries in a single car accident near his home four days earlier. Funeral arrangements are listed below.

Adams, 20, had been in an induced coma at the Atlanta Medical Center, according to Winthrop men's basketball coach Randy Peele. Eagles fans had been encouraged to send cards and e-mails to **Adams**, a rising junior majoring in sociology.

"This is a very sad day for Winthrop University basketball," said Peele. "De'Andre was a fan favorite of the Winthrop faculty and fans. He had a vibrant personality, and he lived his life with great passion and enthusiasm. We will miss De'Andre a great deal. Our lives have been blessed because of having De'Andre Adams as part of our basketball family. We extend our thanks and prayers to his family."

Winthrop officials said a memorial service will be held on campus in the future, at an appropriate time to be determined after funeral services in Atlanta.

Winthrop President Anthony DiGiorgio said he had gotten to know De'Andre during his two years at the university. "I knew him as an energetic, lively, dedicated and bright young man," DiGiorgio said. "We will miss all of that and the university will miss the light that he shined upon us. He and his family will be forever in our thoughts."

The accident occurred around 4 a.m. Saturday as **Adams** was driving home following a basketball game in the Atlanta Summer League. **Adams**, who was apparently wearing his seatbelt, swerved to miss a tree that had apparently fallen across the roadway during a thunderstorm. The vehicle flipped and crashed into another tree.

Adams played in all 35 Winthrop games this past season, including three starts, averaging 2.1 points and 1.1 rebounds, with 95 assists. He also had 30 steals. He set single-game career highs for points (7), assists (8) and minutes played (32). He had three points and three assists in 15 minutes in Winthrop's 74-64 win over Notre Dame in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

In two seasons, he saw action in all 65 games the Eagles played.

Funeral arrangements for De'Andre:

The **Winthrop Eagle Club** will be taking a bus to Atlanta for the services. The bus will leave at 6 a.m. Monday from the Winthrop Coliseum front parking lot and stop for a meal enroute to Atlanta. The bus will return to Rock Hill late Monday night sometime after 11 p.m. The bus seating is limited to 46 people and some spaces remain open. Cost of the transportation is free, but everyone is personally responsible for their meal. Seat reservations are on a first-come basis. To reserve a seat, call 803/323-2129, ext. 6218, by 2 p.m. on Friday.

Visitation: Sunday, 2-6 p.m.

Carmichael Funeral Home (Jim Carmichael, funeral director)
2950 King Str.
Smyrna, GA 30080
Tel: 770/435-4467

Funeral services: Monday, 1 p.m.
Jackson Memorial Baptist Church
534 Fairburn Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30331-1438
Tel: 404/691-4238

Burial: Monday
County Line United Methodist Church
4031 Old River Rd.
Ellenwood, GA 30303
Tel: 404/243-0363

Flowers and cards can be sent to the funeral home at the above address, or to the Adams family home at the following address:

John Adams Family
4653 Lightway
Austell, GA 30106

Donations in De'Andre's memory may be made to:
The De'Andre Adams Memorial Scholarship
Winthrop University Foundation
124 Tillman Hall
Winthrop University
Rock Hill, SC 29733.

Or:

A.W. Matthews Boys Club
285 Fontaine Rd. SW
Mableton, GA 30126
Tel: 770/944-2697

Radio Tribute

WRHI-1340 AM radio in Rock Hill will devote air time during Friday's "Morning Show" to allow fans, friends and supporters of Winthrop to pay tribute to the life of **De'Andre Adams**. During the show, which airs from 6 to 9 a.m., host Steven Stone will be taking calls or emails from those who would like to celebrate De'Andre's life by sharing their memories of the Winthrop basketball player who passed away on Wednesday from injuries he suffered in an automobile accident last Saturday.

To share your thoughts on the air, telephone 803-324-1340 and ask for Steven Stone. If you would rather send an e-mail message to be read over the air, send your message to Stone@WRHI.com.

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